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DATE: March 20, 2006

NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER PAGE: 14

TO: Examiner Kevin Taho Truong
Group: 3731

FAX NO.: 571-273-8300

FROM: Frederick J. Dorchak
Reg. No. 29,298

RE: U.S. Serial No. 10/723,162
Applicant: Lester J. VAN ESS-2
(Our Reference: VAN ESS-2)

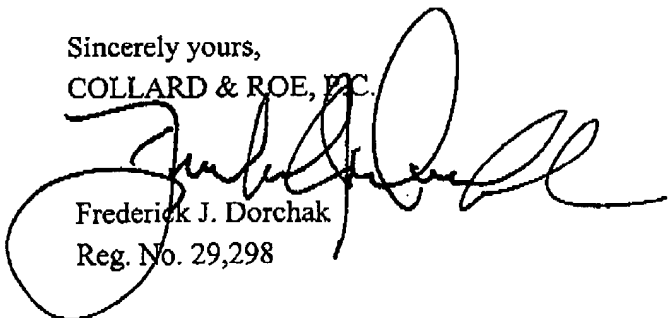
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MESSAGE:

Enclosed is an Amendment in response to the First Office Action. Please confirm receipt by facsimile at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,
COLLARD & ROE, P.C.



Frederick J. Dorchak
Reg. No. 29,298

FJD:rd
Enclosures

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PATENTSIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Lester J. VAN ESS - 2
SERIAL NO.: 10/723,162 EXAMINER: Kevin Thao TRUONG
FILED: November 26, 2003 GROUP: 3731
TITLE: LAPAROSCOPIC INSTRUMENT AND METHOD FOR ITS USE

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Honorable Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the First Office Action dated December 23, 2006, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.